

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

SP-02 L-01 PRS-01 EB-03 PM-03 DODE-00 /042 W

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R 151250Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 2583

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE

USINT BAGHDAD IRAQ

AMEMBASSY CAIRO EGYPT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT OMAN

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN TEHRAN IRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 1283

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR, BA, IZ

SUBJECT : BAHRAINI PERCEPTIONS OF IRAQ

1. SINCE THEIR RETURN FROM RECENT OFFICIAL VISIT TO BAGHDAD, I HAVE HAD OCCASION TO TALK BRIEFLY WITH BOTH PRIME MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER ABOUT THEIR REACTIONS TO CURRENT ATMOSPHERE IN BAGHDAD VIS-A-VIS GULF. BOTH WERE IMPRESSED BY POSITIVE MOOD OF IRAQI REGIME WHICH APPEARED CONFIDENT OF ITS CONTROL OF SECURITY SITUATION AT HOME AND FOCUSED ON SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES UNDERWAY AS RESULT OF INCREASED OIL REVENUES. BAHRAINIS SAY IRAQI OFFICIALS STRONGLY EMPHASISED IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACH TO DEVELOPING MORE COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH GULF NEIGHBORS. PRIME MINISTER SAYS IRAQIS EXPRESSED UNHAPPINESS AT INABILITY TO DATE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH KUWAIT AND INDICATED THEY HAD NO FEELING OF HOSTILITY TOWARD
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USG. BOTH FOREIGN MINISTER AND PRIME MINISTER CAME AWAY WITH

IMPRESSION IRAQI REGIME IS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT GROWTH OF
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IRAQ AND PRIVATE AMERICAN INDUSTRY AND
COMMERCE.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER APPEARS PARTICULARLY, AND CYNICALLY,
IMPRESSED WITH FACT THAT IRAQ'S NEW-FOUND ENTHUSIASM FOR
IMPROVING RELATIONS ON ARAB SIDE OF GULF IS MOTIVATED LARGELY
BY FEAR OF IRAN AND SYRIA. PRIME MINISTER NOTED THAT GOB,
LIKE OTHER GULF STATES, MUST WELCOME ANY SINCERE IRAQI DESIRE
FOR BETTER RELATIONS BUT ADDED "THOSE PEOPLE HAVE GIVEN US
TROUBLE FOR MANY YEARS AND WE ARE GOING TO PROCEED VERY
CAREFULLY IN DEALING WITH THEM."
TWINAM

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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